

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 2, 2008, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

By this Response, claims 1, 4, 9, and 11-15 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. Claims 19-21 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-18 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 4, 12, and 15 are independent claims. Applicants request entry of the above amendments because the above amendments place the claims in better condition for allowance.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4 and 19-21 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 12, and 15 with the allowable subject matter recited in dependent claims 19-21, respectively. Furthermore, claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the teachings of Tasman and Kadambi, alone or in combination, would fail to disclose or suggest every feature recited in claims 1, 12, and 15.

Further, Applicants have amended claim 15 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention, rendering the objection to claim 15 moot.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending set of claims are now in condition for allowance, rendering the rejections presented in the Office Action moot.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, Applicants' undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Additional Claim Fee Transmittal
Petition for Extension of Time
Check No. 019426